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Soviet arms violations alleged

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At a time when President Reagan has promised that the United States will abide by terms of the SALT II arms limitation treaty if the Soviets do, a former CIA official has published a study alleging Soviet violations of both SALT I and SALT II.

The study, "The Bitter Fruit of SALT: A Record of Duplicity," was written by David S. Sullivan. He served the CIA for seven years as a senior strategic and Soviet policy analyst.

Sullivan claims there is evidence of two recent and significant Soviet violations of the SALT II Treaty and at least 27 other violations.

The most recent violations, Sullivan says, are:

- Russian extension of the range of AS-3 "Kangaroo" air-to-surface missile from 600 to 650 kilometers.
- The building of the SS-16 mobile ICBM by the Russians.

Although SALT II was agreed to by the U.S. and Soviet governments, the treaty never was ratified by the U.S. Senate, so its terms are not binding on either party.

However, Reagan announced on Memorial Day that the United States would abide by its terms if the Soviet Union did while the two nations go forward with new arms reduction talks.

An official of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency acknowledged Sullivan's study had been reviewed by the agency.

He declined to comment on the allegations of violations by the Soviets other than to say the study was speculative in approach rather than substantive. He also acknowledged that opinion in the administration is divided as to whether the Soviets have violated either SALT I or SALT II.

"The president and members of the administration concerned with arms reduction remain aware of the critical importance of insisting on realistic verification," he added. "We continue to monitor closely Soviet compliance and will raise the issue of violations when necessary."

In an interview Sullivan said the president in his 1980 campaign had called SALT II "critically flawed" and unverifiable.

Sullivan said that in his study, "I have documented 14 examples of Soviet negotiating deceptions in SALT I and II and 30 cases of other arms treaty violations."

He charged the patterns of Soviet "SALT negotiating deception and diplomatic duplicity" include disinformation ploys, forgeries, treaty violations and hostile propaganda.

All the evidence "suggests that arms treaties have served to lull the U.S. into complacency and unilaterally deactivating its strategic forces and reducing its planned strategic forces," Sullivan said.

The former CIA analyst said most of his information and evidence for his study came from unclassified, official U.S. government sources.

Sullivan said the record of Soviet violations and deception he uncovered makes it unlikely that Reagan and his arms control experts will be able to negotiate future reductions with safety and security.

"The Bitter Fruit of SALT" was published by the Texas Policy Institute of Houston, a public policy research group specializing in global political and military strategy. Sullivan is a legislative assistant on military affairs for the Senate Armed Services Committee and an analyst with the Strategic Studies Center of Stanford Research Institute in Washington.

In a foreword to the Sullivan study, a nuclear weapons expert, Brig. Gen. Albion W. Knight Jr. (Ret.) bitterly assails the Reagan administration for embracing SALT and predicts the administration will fail at its current efforts at arms limitation.

"The Reagan administration cannot sweep this grisly record under the rug. It is upon this rock of absence of trust that any new arms control agreement will be smashed," Knight wrote.